

PRETTY BLOUSES FOR ALL FEMININE TASTES

That Woman Hard to Suit Who Cannot Find Something to Her Liking in Wide Assortment Offered

By ELEANOR HOYT BRAINERD.
BLOUSES of all kinds are even more important than usual this season. They show even more than their usual variety too and the woman is hard to please who cannot by diligent search find the blouse she wants.

That "by diligent search" is meant for a warning, and the woman who goes forth to shop for blouses will do well to heed it and key herself up to patient optimism, unless of course economy need not be considered and she can pick and choose without regard to price.

So many of the pretty blouses are impractical or unbecoming or frightfully expensive that the fastidious shopper may look over hundreds of models without finding just what she wants, though what she wants is fairly sure to be waiting somewhere. The color is usually the point of difficulty.

Blouses otherwise satisfactory are quite likely to have collars unbecomingly difficult of adjustment to varying neck sizes or too easily crushed and demoralized to be practical for wear in a coat or for general use.

Their efforts after originality the makers have strained collar possibilities, and where they have dodged danger they have too often edged into the epidemic form of "low" arrangement, which is usually thoroughly successful neither nor low.

And yet, as has been said before, beautiful blouses are many and some of the delightful models are comparatively inexpensive, for the elaborate hand embroidered blouse inset with lace is not much exploited even among French hand made models, and it is easier to obtain modish effects in the domestic machine made blouse than it was a few seasons ago.

The daintiest models, even of the simple type, are naturally hand made, and at certain Fifth Avenue shops where only such fine hand made models are shown there is temptation for any woman of good taste, but if she will turn her eyes away and go to shops further down the avenue or on other streets she will find balm for wounded desire.

For example, there are the blouses of central sketch, carefully made, smart, distinctive, of good material, yet all of moderate price as compared with the hand made models of the exclusive shops. Not actually cheap, any one of them. One does not find the combination of design, material and finish in the very cheap blouse, although there are astonishingly attractive models at prices as low as a dollar fifty, but smartly simple blouses ranging in price from \$5 to \$12 are reasonably priced according to average standards.

A touch of color enters into a large percentage of the modish blouses this year and admirable results are obtained through it, although the wisely economical woman realizes that nothing gives quite the satisfactory service an all white blouse will. The handry is not so likely to work havoc with it as it is with the colored blouse and it can be worn with all sorts of skirts without regard to color harmony. But the blouses in white and color have a great appeal and admit of great variety, so there is reason for their popularity.

Striped and crossover effects in lines of color on a white ground are admirable for blouse purposes and are made up in all grades of material from the cheapest of cotton to the finest and most expensive of linen and silk.

One shop is showing a simple model in pink and white or blue and white striped cotton with fine blue piping and a cuff of great variety, so that is undeniably smart looking and dainty. How well it will tub and wear remains to be seen; and, as a general thing, if one wants color in a tub blouse it is the part of wisdom to buy a good quality of material.

The ring dot linen lawn of the blouse flaring in our large group answers this requirement and has a truly more individuality than the tub blouse. It is the part of a double frill effect and sheer and the ring dots are in delicate color, while the front frill and the frills on collar and sleeves are of sheerest white.

Frills and jabots have come into their own once more, though they are by no means universal, and a more daintily feminine finish has yet to be invented for the summer blouse; but it is difficult to keep frills crisp and immaculate as they should be, and some women pass them by because they crush so easily under a coat and add to laundering problems. One blouse maker who is partial to frilled designs compromises in many cases by making the frills quite separate from the blouse and buttoning or snapping on. To blouse may be worn with or without the frill and several frills may be played for one blouse if the customer wants them.

The double frill of the ring dot blouse wide on one side of the central frill, narrow on the other, might easily be arranged in this fashion, as such the effective white frill that times the front of a fine gray linen. This latter is a wide affair cut all in the piece and laid in tiny crosswise tucks down the middle, tiny white satin buttons being set at the ends of each tuck. In this way a double frill effect is secured. Narrow picot edge frills of the white lawn border the wider front frills and the cuffs and collar.

The idea of white collar, cuffs and vest or frills on a colored blouse is pretty liked and applied not only to plain, striped and figured blouses in light colors, but to the deeper blues and greens and grays, &c., as well, reducing the dark tones from sombre, and making them becoming and fresh looking. This is a case where adjustable white details would make the blouse far more practical, but one cannot find such an arrangement among things ready made unless one buys an absolutely severe tailored



Handkerchief linen blouses in stripes, spots and in color and white combinations.

shirt waist and makes it adapt itself to separate white accessories.

Fine white plique is used to trim even the sheerest of cotton stuffs and has the advantage of swelling and crushing less readily than any of the sheer white stuffs; but the latter are of course daintier and the rage for organdy has not yet subsided; so one finds organdy collars, and cuffs on all sorts of blouses, sheer or heavy, dark or light, cotton or linen or silk.

There's no denying the charm of this thin, crisp white material, and finished up by very narrow hems it is inexpensive as well as chic, but laundering it so that it will retain the crisp, fresh look that is its most valuable quality is not so simple a matter as one might think, and its wearing qualities leave something to be desired. The organdy collar and cuffs of a striped or otherwise colored blouse are often hemmed narrowly with the colored material, and when all white may have picot edge or hem-stitched hems, or narrow lace frills; but, on the whole, the narrow self hems are perhaps the most effective and in the ultra simplicity of such collars and cuffs lies their cachet.

The deep Puritan collar is gaining

favor in this connection, as are various flat collar effects, and where these collars are becoming they are a welcome relief from the high, rolling, and fastidious shapes which in the past have been so much resented.

The high all around collar still has its friends, but is more often worn with a high crush stock than without, the stock mercifully concealing any faults of fitting which are fairly sure to be present in the ready made high necked blouse. High collars of the blouse stuff opening up the front are hard to hone and adjust properly and prone to wrinkle unbearably in front where buttons emphasize the wrinkles, but some of the smartest models show such collars.

An excellent blouse in white chiffon and satin, pictured here, has the high soft satin collar cut in one with a satin bone running down the middle front of a chiffon underblouse. A sleeveless satin overblouse is draped in low cut surplice folds and forms its own draped bodice. Satin cuffs are on the chiffon sleeves and satin coverlet buttons trim cuffs, collar and front band. This model would be a good one in color as well as in white, but

would need a relieving touch of white next the face in that case.

Very gay blouses are shown among the imports, though in general French color schemes are much less violent this year than they have been.

Bright orange, flame, canary, purple and some rather startling combinations of such bright colors are offered in suit blouses, usually with the chattering white in collar and cuffs; and the military red, white and blue is often seen in blouses. Sometimes this last color scheme is embodied in a one tone blouse, with the other two colors introduced in discreet touches of braiding, embroidery, &c., but other models show a frank combination of the three colors in the material, as in the red, white and blue striped silk blouse of our small cut, where stripes are cleverly handled to give the fashionable narrow shoulder and closed at the throat line, while opening away, as the fronts descend, to reveal a little vest of fine white organdy. Collar and cuffs are of organdy too, full edged, and through tiny eyelets in the white cuffs very narrow velvet ribbon is run to tie in the smallest of bows.

Overbodice arrangements are still popular for blouses and some very good pelum models are offered both in silk and chiffon combinations and in tub blouses. A good looking black and white striped chiffon cloth blouse has a plaited bib, peplum and bows of black silk and a particularly clever little costume blouse of blue taffeta is cut in slightly fitted bodice lines with a sharp little point below the waist line in front and a very short, very full peplum frill beginning at each side of the point and standing out audaciously over the hips and around the back. This bodice buttons up the front to meet a chemise and collar of white organdy and has sleeves of the organdy.

Georgette crepe is still a favorite

blouse material and shares with net and chiffon the honors for thin dressy blouses. Laces are used with these materials, antique flit effects and cluny entering into many of the best looking models, but on the other hand some of the very smartest blouses in these thin materials are almost entirely untrimmings, save for little tucks, open stitchery or self frills.

Going back to the subject of tub

Collar Possibilities Are Strained to the Limit by Makers in Their Efforts After Originality

blouses—though, for that matter, many of the net, chiffon and Georgette crepe blouses will stand tubing—entire blouses of organdy, usually without other trimmings than fine tucks or perhaps little self frills, are among the summery models and are delightful when crisp and fresh. Piping or bindings of color are sometimes used on such organdy models, but they are at their best in all white.

On the other sheer white stuffs, batiste, handkerchief linen, linen lawn, &c., these narrow colored hems, piping and bindings are often used and with excellent results, while in tailored models of heavier linen piping are frequently introduced. There is a faint military suggestion about many of these tailored blouses, secured chiefly by shoulder yokes, arrangement of buttons and other small touches.

Voile is still modish for the sheer cotton blouse and some quaintly attractive little cotton models are made of dotted swiss, with closely scattered very small dots. These at their best have no trimmings except little self frills or possibly narrow hems of colored linen lawn.

One good looking model had narrow hems of dark blue taffeta and little buttons and bows, also of the dark blue taffeta. It was a most attractive blouse for a dark blue suit, but, of course, not particularly practical, as the white dotted swiss would need frequent cleaning and the taffeta trimmings would prevent tubing.

Sports blouses of white or color or of white and color are made up in all the familiar wash silks, linens, piques, &c., and offer nothing especially new in detail, so far as the more formal tailored types are concerned. There are new smock blouses which threaten to supplant the "middy," though there are also new and less youthful versions of the middy, and there are loose, comfortable tennis jackets which are second cousins to the Norfolk jacket, plaited, belted, hip length, severely tailored and worn very loose. These are built up in white and in gay colored linens or lawns and, if one has the figure for them, look well over white sports skirts.

SOME RECIPES FOR SCONES

SCONES are rapidly becoming popular for breakfast and tea in this country and the demand for variety thus occasioned has been satisfied by the following recipes from Scotland and England, where the scone is as staple as the crumpet or the muffin.

Yorkshire Scones—Mix two cups of sifted flour to a dough with cream. It is necessary to have the cream sour. Make the dough into a large round cake and cook it on a hot greased griddle, turning it over when one side is properly baked. When done split while hot and butter generously. Serve piping hot.

Scotch Scones—Sift two quarts of flour, add a pinch of salt, one and one-half pints of sour milk in which one teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda is dissolved, making a soft dough. Have in readiness a well floured moulding board and roll out the dough about half an inch thick. Cut with a biscuit cutter and bake on a hot buttered griddle until brown on both sides and thoroughly done. Serve hot with butter.

Buttermilk Scones—Warm two ounces of butter in a pan over the fire until melted, then pour into it one teaspoonful of buttermilk in which one-half teaspoonful of soda is dissolved. Add one pinch of salt and mix with one pound of flour into a slack dough. Roll out on a moulding board, cut with a biscuit cutter, flour both sides of the scones well and cook them on a buttered griddle, turning them over several times. The scones should be rather thin when cooked.

Potato Scones—Mix one-fourth teaspoonful of salt with four cups of flour. Cook and mash three fair sized potatoes and mix them with the flour. Add a scant half teaspoonful of soda, one tablespoonful of butter and sufficient buttermilk to make a paste. Roll thin and cook on a hot griddle, turning so that both sides are nicely browned.

Orchard Loaf Scones—Mix one teaspoonful each of salt and sugar and three cups of flour. Rub into this two tablespoonfuls of butter, and moisten with one cup of fresh cream. Divide the mixture into two parts and roll these into large rounds. Cut each round into eight triangles and bake five minutes, turning them once.

Girdle Scones—Sift one pound of flour, a pinch of salt, a very little sugar, one-half ounce of baking powder and add a piece of butter the size of a walnut. Pour into this as much sweet milk as will make a stiff dough, shape like muffins and bake in the usual manner on a griddle.

Cornish Potato Cakes—Chop one-quarter pound of suet and work it into one teaspoonful of flour. Mix with this thoroughly four large cold boiled potatoes, one teaspoonful of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Rub these ingredients together and roll out like puff paste about one-half inch thick. Bake in a quick oven, cut in squares, butter generously and serve very hot.

Lancashire Girdle Cakes—Sift one-quarter pound of flour, keeping a little of it out. Rub into the flour one ounce of butter and a pinch of salt. Work this up into a dough with warm milk adding the rest of the flour gradually. Roll out one-half inch thick and cut round. Bake on a greased griddle, turning once to brown both sides. Cut into four pieces, split and butter the inside quickly, warming the butter to prevent chilling the cake. Serve on a warm napkin immediately.

Staffordshire Crumpets—Rub a little butter into one-half pound of flour which has been sifted with half a teaspoonful of soda, salt and sugar to taste. Beat two eggs until frothy and add them to the dry ingredients with enough buttermilk to make a fairly thick paste. Bake on a griddle.

Bakestone Cakes—Mix well together one-half pound of flour, four ounces of butter, the same weight of sugar, four ounces of currants that have been thoroughly washed and dried, two eggs, one teaspoonful of baking powder, a pinch of salt and a little milk to bring it to the right consistency. Roll out very thin and bake on a floured griddle.

Tea Scones—Sift together two or three times one pound of flour, two ounces of sugar, a pinch of salt, one teaspoonful of baking powder and rub into this one ounce of butter; add the yolks of two eggs mixed with sufficient milk to produce a thick batter and at the last moment fold in the stiffly beaten whites. Pour into shallow tins about one and a half inches

deep. Bake in the oven, split open, butter well and serve piping hot.

Pleasantly Banquets—Heat one-quarter cup of sugar into one-half a cup creamed butter and a pinch of salt, three cups of flour, two-thirds of a cup of blanched and chopped almonds and about as much candied orange peel. Form the dough into round cake about one and a half inches thick. Prick the top with a fork, ornament with caraway seeds and shredded candied orange peel. Bake in a moderate oven for thirty minutes.

SILENT SERMONS.

HUNDREDS of churches throughout the country are now equipped with all the machinery necessary for giving moving picture shows. The church movie, which has aptly been called the silent sermon, is proving a great success in attracting large congregations.

A great variety of special films have been prepared suitable for such use, and a clerkman in selecting a subject to his taste finds a surprising variety to choose from. There are films suitable for sermons on all the commandments, as well as many of the most familiar texts in the Bible. Several of the firms making a specialty of such films issue regular catalogues to assist clerkmen in selecting silent sermons.

In scores of churches the projecting machines are part of the church furniture. The rigid laws laid down by the fire departments apply as well to churches as to theatres and the machines must be set up in fireproof metal rooms. The electric wiring is arranged so that the sermon may be turned on conveniently in the main church auditorium or the lecture or chapter rooms.

The screens and the rest of the equipment are of the usual standard type. Many of the film houses which supply churches have small theatres or exhibition rooms where a clergyman may have a trial exhibition of a silent sermon before definitely ordering it. The film sermons are rented out at a regular rate, according to their length and the nature of the production. In producing these silent sermons a regular church service is followed, consisting of the singing of hymns, prayers and reading of the lesson. The films are carefully timed to fit into the place assigned them. Some of the catalogues of silent sermons suggest church services to accompany them, giving the numbers of appropriate hymns and scriptural lessons.

NO JOBS FOR GIRLS AT FAIR.

A SURVEY of unemployment among women in San Francisco has just been completed by the California branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. As a consequence warnings are being sent throughout the country to women and girls bound for the Panama-Pacific Exposition without money, friends or a definite position. To show that this warning is needed the American Social Hygiene Association calls attention to the girl's moral conditions which give cause for anxiety.

According to the collegiate alumnae the factories, department stores and offices have an oversupply of labor as well as the exposition. At the employment bureau of the exposition there were on file at the time of the opening of the great fair more than 10,000 applications for positions, about a tenth of which were from women. The number of positions filled by women is not more than one thousand.

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Blouses of lace and batiste, of linen lawn, of striped silk and of chiffon and satin.